(b) The State of Orissa has an annual allocation of Rs. 47.00 crores under Calamity Relief Fund of which Rs. 35.25 crores is contributed by the Central Government. Apart from releasing Rs. 35.25 crores as Central contribution to the State Calamity Relief Fund, an amount of Rs. 21.88 crores was also released in advance to the State Calamity Relief Fund during 1990-91. Thus, the Central Government had released a total amount of Rs. 57.13 crores to the State Calamity. Relief Fund to enable them to provide relief to the people affected by natural calamities including floods in Ganjam District.

Introduction of high speed train between Urban centres in Andhra Pradesh

1814. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce high speed trains between urban centres in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has not received fair treatment in sanctioning of fast trains on the Shatabdi model as has been done in northern States;

(c) what are the proposals submitted by South Central Railways for new trains and super-fast trains in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Indian Railways do not introduce trains State-wise. However, Secunderabad-Vijayawada section has been identified for runnnig of high speed train at an appropriate time.

(c) Proposals for new trains received from all zonal Railways including South Central Railway at the time of revision of Time Table were examined. No specific proposal is pending at present.

(d) A new train No. 7423/7424 Express between Secunderabad and Tirupati has been introduced w.e.f. 1-7-1991.

Doubling of tracks in Asansol-Damodar section

1815. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asansol-Damodar section of South Eastern Railway required doubling of the track;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the overhead bridge consisting a section of G. T. Road needs improvement and widening; and

(c) if so, whether Government have evolved any project to that effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Proopsal for construction of a new road overbridge in replacement of the existing old road over-bridge on G.T. road at Asansol is, at present, in an advanced stage of planning jointly with the State Government. The work can be taken up for execution, only after the State Government accepts the detailed estimate for the work and consents to share the cost, as per rules.

Sugar policy

1816. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the sugar policy in the near future;

(b) if so, the salient feature thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to clear new applications for cooperative and private sugar factories in Karnataka; and